of the shovel (7) remains constant as the latter is moving and working.

A marked-up version is shown as Exhibit A.

REMARKS

By this Preliminary Amendment, a cross-reference to related applications has been inserted in page 1. Amended claims 4, 5, 11, and 12 to remove the multiple dependency of these claims. No new matter has been introduced. Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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Date of Deposit: February 20, 2002
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Lisa L. Vulpis

EXHIBIT A

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE TO
CLAIMS 4, 5, 11, AND 12

4. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, [2 or 3,] characterized in that the position of the point of gravity of the excavator equipment is monitored and the compensation pressure is automatically adapted to any shift in the position of the point of gravity.

5. (Amended) The method according to claim 1, [2, 3 or 4,] characterized in that the admission of the compensation pressure is terminated upon actuation of the control device by the operator.

11. (Amended) The construction machine according to claim 6 [or any one of the subsequent claims], characterized in that provision is made for a selector switch (14) for adjusting the compensation pressure.

12. (Amended) The construction machine according to claim 6 [or any one of the subsequent claims], characterized in that provision is made in a control line (31) leading to the pressure control valve (13) or to the pressure-regulated servo-pump (27) for a measuring instrument for detecting any shift in the position of the point of gravity of the excavator equipment, said measuring instrument supplying a modulated control signal to the pressure control valve (13) or to the pressure-regulated servo-pump (27) in order to change the compensation pressure in such a way that the force of application of the shovel (7) remains constant as the latter is moving and working.